GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2645
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2016
Odd-Even Scheme
Singh Shri Parvesh Sahib

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that as per a study by IIT Delhi, there was no big relief in decreasing pollution during the first phase of Odd-Even Scheme in Delhi;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
(c) whether the Government is likely to direct the Delhi Government to find out other means to decrease pollution in place of Odd-Even Scheme; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) IIT, Delhi study reported that the benefit of odd-even scheme on the day time air quality was not immediately apparent in ambient measurements, with likely large interference from meteorology. Besides IIT Delhi, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has also assessed the impact of odd-even scheme launched by Government of NCT Delhi from 1st to 15th January, 2016. The assessment of CPCB has revealed no clear trend and wide fluctuations observed in the concentrations. It is evident that the meteorology and emissions from other polluting sources have been major factors impacting air quality of Delhi during the period. Higher wind speeds and mixing height in general result in better dispersion and lower pollution levels. Overall, it can be stated that while some reduction in air pollution is likely to happen due to odd-even scheme, a single factor or action cannot substantially reduce air pollution levels in Delhi. Therefore, a comprehensive set of actions following an integrated approach is required to make substantial improvement in air quality.

(c) & (d) The CPCB has issued directions under section 18 (1) (b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to Delhi Pollution Control Committee for initiating time bound action for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution and improvement of Air Quality which inter alia include control of vehicular emissions; control of road dust/re-suspension of dust and other fugitive emission; control of air pollution from bio-mass burning; control of industrial air pollution; control of air pollution from construction and demolition activities; and other steps to control air pollution.
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